

A

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Resource Categories and Assessment Variables
For the Programmatic EIR/EIS
Draft
1/29/97

I. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

A. Surface-Water Hydrology

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Volume of flow

Timing of flow

Related Information to be Measured

Rainfall

Snowmelt

Groundwater discharge

Direct runoff

Evapotranspiration from program features (soil moisture, vegetation [e.g., terrestrial, agricultural crops, riparian, wetlands], open-water area)

Seasonal weather pattern variation

B. Groundwater Hydrology

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Groundwater supply

Conjunctive use supply

Related Information to be Measured

Basin storage capacity

Groundwater recharge

Groundwater withdrawals

C. Riverine Hydraulics

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Depth, width, and velocity

Related Information to be Measured

Slope of water surface and channel bed
Channel or floodplain roughness (resistance)
Water viscosity
Hydrographs
Channel geometry
Instream and bank erosion: channel loss; riparian loss
(e.g., from channel migration, recreation, wind,
current); gravel loss; conveyance loss
Sediment movement
Channel geomorphology

D. Water Management Facilities and Operations

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Reservoir storage volumes, releases, and spills

Related Information to be Measured

Capacity
Elevation
Runoff
Flood control storage
Diversion targets
Instream targets

Instream flow targets, deficits, and surpluses

Instream targets
Runoff
Storage
Diversion targets
Transport

Diversions/exports targets, deficits, and surpluses

Runoff
Diversion targets
Diversion limits
Reservoir storage
Groundwater pumping

Agricultural drainage volumes

Rainfall
Irrigation
Soils
Drainage facilities

Water Use Efficiency

Urban water use efficiency and conservation measures
Agriculture water use efficiency and conservation measures
Diverted environmental water use efficiency and conservation measures

Remaining opportunities for water management

Spills/surplus outflow
Unused conveyance
Carryover storage
Urban stormwater drainage volumes

E. Bay-Delta Hydrodynamics

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Delta outflow

X2 location

Channel flows at key Delta locations

Water entrainment in diversions/exports

Related Information to be Measured

Delta inflows
Channel depletions
Exports

Outflow
Tidal mixing

Delta inflows
Channel depletions
Exports
River diversions
Transport

Delta inflows
Channel depletions
Exports
River diversions

F. Flood Control System

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Hazards to the levee system

Changes in flood location, depth or duration

Relative risk of levee failure

Related Information to be Measured

Overtopping failure (flood stage elevation)
Mass failure (potential for erosion, stability, seepage, and seismic failure)

Flood modeling

Hazards (potential failures)

Levee improvements (project and nonproject levees)

Levee design standards and guidelines

Seismicity (risk of levee failure during a seismic event)

Levee structural integrity

G. Water Quality

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Ecosystem Water Quality

Urban Water Quality

Related Information to be Measured

Metals:

Cadmium

Copper

Mercury

Selenium

Zinc

Organics/Pesticides

Carbofuran

Chlordane

Chlorpyrifos

DDT

Diazinon

Polychlorinated bipheyls (PCBs)

Toxaphene

Ammonia

Dissolved oxygen

Salinity (total dissolved solids [TDS],
electroconductivity [EC])

Temperature

Turbidity/Transparency

Bromide

Nutrients

Pathogens

Salinity

Total organic carbon (TOC)

Turbidity

Viruses

Agricultural Water Quality

Boron
Chloride
Nutrients
pH
Salinity
Sodium adsorption ratio (SAR)
Turbidity
Temperature

H. Geomorphology and Soils

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Surface soil erosion

Soil salinity

Subsidence caused by peat oxidation

Subsidence caused by groundwater withdrawals

Related Information to be Measured

Agricultural soil loss
Wind
Stormwater

Soil geology
Applied EC
Agricultural drainage

Peat content
Soil moisture
Ground disturbance and tilling practices

Groundwater levels
Aquifer clay content

I. Air Quality

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Ozone

Carbon monoxide

Particulate matter

Related Information to be Measured

Construction activities
Agricultural operations
Pump operations

Construction activities
Agricultural operations
Pump operations

Construction activities
Agricultural operations
Pump operations
Wind and soil conditions

J. Noise

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Short-term construction noise

Noise from aquatic recreation (i.e., boating)

Noise from terrestrial recreation (i.e., hunting)

Noise from facilities operation

K. Traffic and Navigation

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Navigation

Railways

Ferries

Airports

Roadways

II. BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

A. Fisheries and Aquatic Ecosystem

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Habitat

Related Information to be Measured

Flow including instream flow, net channel flow, tidal flow, estuarine salinity

Temperature

Substrate

Physical Habitat

Water Quality including agricultural salinity, thermal pollution, Dissolved oxygen, nutrient availability, toxicants, transparency

Species interactions including predation, competition, disease, exotic plants

Foodweb support

Flow including instream flow, net channel flow, tidal flow, estuarine salinity

Reservoir Elevation

Temperature

Substrate Habitat

Physical Habitat

Water quality including agricultural salinity, thermal pollution, dissolved oxygen, nutrient availability, toxicants, transparency

Species Interactions including predation, competition, disease, exotic plants.

Access

Flow including instream flow, net channel flow, tidal flow, estuarine salinity

Reservoir Elevation

Temperature

Physical Habitat

Barriers

Water Quality including agricultural salinity, thermal pollution, dissolved oxygen, nutrient availability, toxicants, transparency

Species Interactions including predation, competition, disease, exotic plants.

Artificial Production

Water Temperature Condition

Flow including instream flow, net channel flow, tidal flow, estuarine salinity

Reservoir Elevation

Temperature

Barriers

Water Quality including agricultural salinity, thermal pollution, dissolved oxygen, nutrient availability, toxicants, transparency

Species Interactions including predation competition, disease, exotic plants.

Diversion

Physical Habitat

Diversions

Species Interactions including predation competition, disease, exotic plants.

Water Surface Level

Flow including instream flow, net channel flow, tidal flow, estuarine salinity

Reservoir Elevation

Substrate

Physical Habitat

Species Interactions including predation competition, disease, exotic plants

Toxicant Concentration

Flow including instream flow, net channel flow, tidal flow, estuarine salinity

Reservoir Elevation

Water Quality including agricultural salinity, thermal pollution, dissolved oxygen, nutrient availability, toxicants, transparency

Species Interactions including predation competition, disease, exotic plants

Fishing

Fishing including timing, location, method, and rate

Species Interactions including predation competition, disease, exotic plants

Predation

Physical Habitat

Barriers

Artificial Production

Species Interactions including predation competition, disease, exotic plants

B. Vegetation and Wildlife

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Area and condition of habitat

*GIS
based?*

Area of agricultural land use providing habitat value

Agricultural operations and land use practices on habitat values

Connection and orientation of habitats

Changes in non indigenous/introduced species populations *Qualitative*

Changes in ecological processes that sustain habitats

Related Information to be Measured

Open water and tidal wetlands
Saline, brackish and freshwater wetlands
Riparian and riverine habitats
Upland habitats

C. Special Status Species *and Communities*

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Number of known populations of special-status species

Area and condition of habitat occupied by special-status species

III. ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

A. Land Use

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Acres in agricultural use

Acres in open space and habitat use

Acres in developed use

Indian trust assets

B. Agricultural Economics

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Value of agricultural production

Cost of production

Agricultural net income

Cost of water supply variability

Costs of water agricultural water use efficiency

C. Municipal and Industrial Water Supply Economics

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Cost of water supply

Cost of water shortage

Cost of treatment

Cost of urban water use efficiency

Related Information to be Measured

Acres in production

Crop prices

Crop choices

Crop yield

Cost of surface water used

Groundwater costs

Production costs

Acres in agricultural production

Crop revenue

Production costs

Water transfers

Certainty in water supply and cost

Indirect/third-party impacts

Irrigation efficiency and costs

Related Information to be Measured

Surface-water supply and distribution

Groundwater pumping costs

Alternative water supplies and cost

Water transfer costs

Infrastructure costs for water conveyance and distribution

Water supplies

Consumer willingness to pay and demand elasticity

Quality of water supply

Constraints to treatment

D. Flood Control Economics

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Potential flood damage and resources at risk

Existing and planned property values
Existing and planned utility and
infrastructure values
Distribution of values lost from levee failure
Natural resource values (including protected species)
Cost of repair and rehabilitation of facilities after
levee failure
Maintenance of Delta water quality
Values of resources at risk
Cost of flood damage protection

E. Fish, Wildlife, and Recreation Economics

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Recreation-related spending

Recreation benefits

Commercial fishing harvest values

Recreation employment and net income

Related Information to be Measured

Recreation use and opportunity
Distance traveled to recreation area

Value of recreation resource
Recreation use and opportunity

Income
Catch

F. Regional Economics

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Income

Employment

Related Information to be Measured

Agricultural income
Recreational expenditure
Commercial fishing income
Municipal and industrial water expenditure
Indirect income (i.e., third-party effects)

Agricultural
Recreation-related
Commercial fishing
Municipal and industrial water expenditure
Indirect employment (i.e., third-party effects)

Fiscal conditions

Property tax revenues
Sales tax revenues
Public costs/costs of actions
Indirect (i.e., third-party) fiscal effects

G. Power Production and Energy

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Quantity and value of energy produced

Quantity and cost of energy consumed

Related Information to be Measured

Reservoir elevation
Reservoir releases
Seasonal power value

Groundwater pumping
Surface-water pumping
Seasonal power costs

H. Recreation Resources

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Recreation opportunities

Recreation use

Related Information to be Measured

Resource conditions and availability

Regional population and demographics
Demand for recreation resources

I. Visual Resources

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Visual quality

Viewer sensitivity

J. Cultural Resources

Important Changes to be Evaluated

Risk to prehistoric sites

Risk to historic sites

Related Information to be Measured

Acreage of ground disturbance from
construction
Distribution of culturally sensitive land forms
Locations of known sites

Association of historic sites with land
conditions
Locations of known sites